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TELEGRAM

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TOTAL COPIES: 14

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 01571 121357Z

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ACTION EA 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, RSR 01, EUR 15, /109 W

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R 120755Z MAR 69
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2266
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCPAC 3279

~~SECRET~~ VIENTIANE 1571

REF: A. VIENTIANE 969

B. VIENTIANE 1251

SUBJECT: LAO-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS

1. AFTER DINNER LAST NIGHT DCM QUERIED MFA DELEGATE KHAMPHAN PANYA ABOUT REPORTS WE HAD HEARD THAT RLG EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA HAD BROKEN OFF. KHAMPHAN CONFIRMED REPORT IN FOLLOWING TERMS:

(1) KHAMPHAN HAD MADE ORAL DEMARCHE TO CAMBODIAN CHARGE CONSISTING OF THREE POINTS:

A. RLG WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE STATEMENT REGARDING LAO-CAMBODIAN BORDER ALONG LINES DESCRIBED REF A.

B. RKG WOULD UNDERTAKE TO ENSURE THAT ALL LAO RESIDING IN CAMBODIA WOULD ENJOY SAME FULL RIGHTS AS DID CAMBODIAN CITIZENS AND WOULD NOT BE TREATED AS A MINORITY GROUP.

C. IF RKG FOUND IT TO BE IN ITS INTEREST, RLG WOULD LIKE TO HAVE TRANSIT RIGHTS FROM THE PORT OF SIHANOUKVILLE

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ACROSS CAMBODIA.

(2) AFTER CONSULTING RKG CAMBODIAN CHARGE TRANSMITTED ORALLY RKG AGREEMENT TO ALL THREE POINTS.

(3) WHEN KHAMPHAN SUGGESTED THAT ARRANGEMENT BE REDUCED TO WRITING, CAMBODIAN CHARGE BALKED. CHARGE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT DECLARATION THAT LAO IN CAMBODIA WOULD NOT BE TREATED AS MINORITY GROUP IMPLIED THAT DISCRIMINATION WAS CURRENTLY PRACTICED AND IN ANY EVENT THE REQUEST CONSTITUTED UNWARRANTED INTRUSION INTO CAMBODIAN AFFAIRS.

(4) AS THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS WAS BEING DIGESTED BY HIGH LAO OFFICIALS, A LITTLE LAO STUDENT WAS WRITING A LETTER TO SIHANOUK DEMANDING THE RETURN TO LAOS OF STUNG TRENG PROVINCE. THE CAMBODIAN CHIEF OF STATE APPARENTLY FOUND THE LETTER USEFUL FOR DURING A LONG PRESS CONFERENCE LAST SATURDAY, WHILE PROMISING NOT TO LOSE HIS TEMPER, SIHANOUK DECLARED THAILAND, LAOS, VIETNAM AND THE US TO BE THE "FOUR ENEMIES" THAT "WANT TO DESTROY CAMBODIA". (FBI\$ BANGKOK P071645Z MAR 69).

(5) SIHANOUK'S DIATRIBE HAS OFFENDED THE RLG (AND REPORTEDLY THE KING) AND SOME TIME MUST NOW PASS BEFORE IT WILL CONSIDER AGAIN THE MERITS OF IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA.

2. COMMENT: BOTH THE RLG AND RKG APPEAR TO HAVE SEIZED UPON THIS RELATIVELY MINOR INCIDENT AS A MEANS OF BACKING OFF FROM THE PROSPECT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS AND OF AVOIDING FURTHER CONFRONTATION OVER THE QUESTION OF THE TREATMENT OF LAO IN CAMBODIA. IN VIEW OF THIS IMPASSE, THE THAI GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT RPT NOT LOOK TO THEIR LITTLE LAO FRIENDS FOR ANY EARLY ASSISTANCE REGARDING THAI-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS.

GP-3 SULLIVAN

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ACTION EA 15

INFO EUR 17, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,
P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 1098 W

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R 200655Z APR 69

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2777

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC 3419

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2440

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN RELATIONS

REF: A) VIENTIANE 2383

B) FBIS BKK DTG 180938Z APR 69 (SIHANOUK
PRESS CONFERENCE)

1. FURTHER READOUT ON PORTIONS OF SIHANOUK'S APRIL 16 PRESS CONFERENCE DEALING WITH LAO CAMBODIAN RELATIONS (REF A) RECEIVED HERE TODAY (REF B). AFTER ANNOUNCING THAT RKG CHARGE AT VIENTIANE UM AMRETH HAS BEEN NAMED AMBASSADOR TO PYONGYANG, SIHANOUK SAID HE WOULD ORDER THE CLOSING OF THE CAMBODIAN EMBASSY HERE "FOR THE MOMENT," (LIKE HE CLOSED RKG EMBASSY IN AUSTRALIA TEMPORARILY.) THE PRINCE ADDED THAT HE WILL NOT DISRUPT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

2. SIHANOUK CLAIMED THE LAO STILL SOUGHT TO RAISE SUBJECTS WHICH WERE NOT NEGOTIABLE I.E., STUNG TRENG AND THE "LAO MINORITY" IN CAMBODIA. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE UNCONDITIONAL OFFER FOR THE TRANSIT OF LAO GOODS THROUGH CAMBODIA AT THE SAME RATES PAID BY THE KHMER HAD BEEN MADE LONG AGO AND REMAINED VALID WHETHER OR NOT THE RLG RECOGNIZED CAMBODIAN FRONTIERS.

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3. COMMENT: SPECULATION IN REF A THAT UM AMRETH'S DEPARTURE AFFORDED SIHANOUK A HANDY LEVER TO EXERT MORE PRESSURE ON THE LAO FOR A BORDER DECLARATION IS CONFIRMED BY SIHANOUK'S OWN WORDS. WE ARE PASSING TEXT OF ENTIRE PRESS CONFERENCE TO APPROPRIATE RLG OFFICIALS, WHO HAD EARLIER RECEIVED EXERPTS FROM OWN SOURCES. SOUVANNA, WHO HAD HEARD ABOUT BROADCAST, TOLD CHANCE THAT HE WAS UNCONCERNED BY SIHANOUK'S STATEMENT.

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ORIGIN EA 15

INFO SS 20,UPW 01,IO 13,P 04,NSC 10,INR 07,L 03,H 02,CIAE 00,DODE 00,
NSAE 00,NSCE 00,SSO 00,USIE 00,CCO 00,FILE 02,RSC 01,/078 R

DRAFTED BY:EA/LC:PJ BENNETT
APPROVED BY:EA/LC:TJ CORCORAN
S/S:MR. PARKER
66637

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R 192045Z APR 69 ZFF5
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 060942

TODEL 2566

CINCPAC FOR POLAD, PARIS ALSO FOR DELEGATION

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

1. WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED FROM AUSTRALIANS TEXT OF SEMI-OFFICIAL
NEWSPAPER REPORT OF SIHANOUK'S APRIL 16 PRESS CONF INCLUDING
PASSAGES ON RELATIONS WITH RLG AND OTHER NEIGHBORS.

2. THESE PASSAGES IN LE CAMBODGE ACCOUNT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT FINALLY, WHAT ARE LAOS AND THAILAND GOING TO DO?
LAOS HAS ATTEMPTED TO BLACKMAIL US (DE NOUS FAIRE CHANTER) IN
POSING CONDITIONS SUCH AS RECOGNITION BY CAMBODIA OF A LAO
COMMUNITY. NOW IN FACT AS FOR A LAO COMMUNITY THERE ARE ONLY
SOME LAO STUDENTS AT PHNOM PENH AND THAT COUNTRY'S EMB
PERSONNEL. THE OTHER CONDITION IS AUTHORIZATION WHICH WE MUST
ACCORD TO LAOS TO USE SIHANOUKVILLE. NOW WE HAVE ALWAYS ACCORDED

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THIS FAVOR TO THE LAO, FOR A LONG TIME, THIS FAVOR WHICH ALWAYS CONTINUES. NOW M. UM AMRETH IS APPOINTED TO PYONGYANG WITHOUT A REPLACEMENT AT VIENTIANE. MOREOVER WE ARE GOING TO CLOSE OUR EMBASSY WITHOUT, HOWEVER, BREAKING WITH VIENTIANE. WE SHALL NEVER COMPROMISE THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY (NOUS NE COMPOSERONS JAMAIS AVEL L'INTEGRITE TERRITORIALE) OF CAMBODIA. IF LAOS WISHES, WE WOULD BE READY TO DISCUSS THE EVENTUAL SALE OF THE TERRITORY OF CHAMPASSAK, FOR EXAMPLE, ADDED SAMDECH, SMILING.

3. AS FOR THAILAND; AS WE BROKE WITH HER, IT IS NORMAL THAT WE SEND SOMEONE TO RESUME TALKING (REPRENDRE LANGUE) WITH THE BANGKOK GOVT. THIS SOMEONE COULD BE H.E. PENN NOUTH, A STATESMAN OF GREAT EXPERIENCE AND WISDOM.

A JOURNALIST (M. CLAUDE SCZAWARSKI) ASKED SAMDECH WHAT HE THOUGHT OF THE DECLARATION OF PRES THIEU WISHING RECONCILIATION WITH CAMBODIA. SAMDECH SAID IT IS TOO LATE. WHEN WE WANTED TO CHOOSE THE NATIONALIST VIETNAM IT REJECTED US. WE THEREFORE OPTED FOR THE SOCIALIST VIETNAM. ONE CANNOT BE FOR BOTH AT ONCE. END TEXT.

4. BALANCE OF REPORT IN LE CAMBODGE CORRESPONDS CLOSELY TO FBIS TEXT. STORY NOTES THAT SOVIET AMB CALLED ON SIHANOUK SHORTLY AFTER HAND-OVER OF DECLARATION BY AUSTRALIAN AMB. SIHANOUK IS QUOTED AS WARNING BEGIN TEXT IN CONFRONTATION WITH SINO/VIETNAMESE ON ONE SIDE AND AMERICANS ON OTHER, WE SHALL REMAIN VIGILANT TO SURVIVE. "LET IT BE KNOWN," EMPHASIZED SAMDECH, "THAT AFTER ME COMES COMMUNISM. WITHOUT SAMDECH, YOUTH WILL GO LEFTWARD." THIS IS WHAT THE USSR HAS UNDERSTOOD AND IT HAS JUST REAFFIRMED BY THE VOICE OF ITS AMB THE SOVIET POSITION IN FAVOR OF SAMDECH. END TEXT. ROGERS

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